(b) if so, what are the details of funds provided for this National Highway and when the work is likely to be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) and (b) Improvement of the National Highways including widening/Strengthening etc. is a continuous process and depends on the volume of traffic, inter-se priority and availability of resources. Out of a total length of 154 km of Jaipur-Delhi Section of National Highway No. 8 falling within Rajasthan, strengthening of 55 kms has been included in the Annual Programme for the year 1986-87. An estimate for Survey and Investigation for widening the Section from Jaipur upto Alwar Road Junction has been sanctioned and the technical details thereof are being finalised in consultation with the State P. W.D. Out of the total allotment of Rs. 800 lakhs during 1985-86 for National Highway works in Rajasthan a sum of about Rs. 115 lakhs has been earmarked for works on Jaipur-Delhi Section.

Cargo support to Indian Ships

1723. SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to bring forth any legislation to offer compulsory Cargo support to Indian bottoms with a view to bail out the Indian shipping lines from their present crisis :

(b) what are the details thereof and by when it is likely to be brought forth; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative what are the reasons therefor and how Government propose to save the shipping industry from the impending disaster due to recession and stiff competition from tramp shipping on the Indian coast ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c) Government in principle have taken a decision to bring forth legislation to implement the U. N. Code for Liner Conference which provides for equal rights of a country to participate in freight and volume of traffic and ensuring at least upto 40% of the cargo generated for Indian bottoms. In addition, the following measures have been undertaken to ensure greater cargo availability for Indian bottoms :—

(i) With a view to ensuring greater share of cargo for Indian vessels India has entered into bilateral shipping agreements which provide for parity in cargo liftings and freight earnings;

(ii) There are standing instructions to Public Sector Undertakings/ Government/Departments to negotiate as far as possible, C&F exports and FOB imports. These are designed to maximise cargo availability to Indian Lines.

(iii) Share of Indian Shipping Lines in the carriage of Iron ore exported by MMTC has been brought up through successful negotiations;

(iv) The use of foreign flag vessels in the oil trade has been brought down by arranging acquisition of suitable tankers for Indian Shipping companies.

(v) With a view to encourage use of Indian vessels it has been decided that (a) the freight paid shall not be debited to the face value of import licence if the ocean freight is paid in non-convertible

rupees in India and the goods are carried on Indian vessels and (b) the exporters will be given replenishment licence on exports in question at the rate of 11% if the goods are exported on Indian vessels as against the normal rate of 10%.

Disappearance of Files in D. T. C.

1724 SHRI J. P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the Hindustan Times of 21st February, 1986 under the caption "Files destroyed to abort explosure";

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what are the details of officers of the Delhi Transport Corporation who are responsible for the disappearance of the files; and

(d) what action Government have taken against the erring officers and what steps have been taken to trace the missing files ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) DTC has reported that their file papers regarding policy decisions about the engagement of 200 private operator's buses against advertisement given in October, 1983, is not traceable.

(c) and (d) The services of senior officer who was dealing with the subject, have since been terminated, under rules.

Purchase of Computer by the Delhi Public Library

1725. SHRI J. P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Public Library purchased a computer without consulting the Department of Electronics and in violation of Government's directives;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government against the persons responsible for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Savings due to electrification of Railways

1726. SHRI J. P. GOYAL : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) how much diesel was saved by the Railways during the last three years changing over to electrification; and

(b) what is the percentage of savings vis-a-vis the total diesel consumption in the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) On the assumption that if the traffic hauled by electric traction was to be hauled by Diesel traction, the national savings of High Speed Diesel oil consumption and the percentage of such savings to the total estimated High Speed Diesel oil consumption in the country